

Middlebury Register.

Vol. LI.

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, DECEMBER 24, 1886.

No. 52.

Middlebury Register.

PUBLISHED BY
THE REGISTER CO.,
MILL STREET,
MIDDLEBURY, - - VERMONT.

Entered at the Middlebury Postoffice as Second Class Matter.

E. H. THORP, Editor and Manager.

TERMS:
One Year, - - - - - \$1.50
Six Months, - - - - - .75
Four Months, - - - - - .50
Three Months, - - - - - .40
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1886.

McQUADE, one of the "hoodle" board of New York aldermen, has been convicted of taking a bribe and sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$5000.

The Ohio supreme court declares constitutional the famous Dow law, which imposes a special tax of \$200 on liquor-sellers. It is thought the effect of the law will be to decrease the number of saloons.

BOTH houses of Congress adjourned, Wednesday, for two weeks. The most noteworthy of the past week's proceedings was the refusal of the House, Saturday, by a majority of six votes, to consider the Morrison horizontal-reduction tariff bill. This probably ends the tariff fight for the session.

AN UNFORTUNATE COMPLICATION.

Such is the New Haven highway matter, that has received the attention of the county court this week. The state of facts is this: A year ago the town of New Haven petitioned the county court for aid in the maintenance of the highway from the Bristol line to the New Haven railway station, under the terms of the act of the legislature of 1884 which provides for State aid in cases where towns find themselves excessively burdened in keeping in repair highways. It was set forth that the road in question is used very largely by the inhabitants of the towns to the east of New Haven, who are obliged to go over it to reach the nearest railway station. Gov. Ormsbee, Hon. Henry Lane of Cornwall and Mr. H. S. Jackman of Waltham were appointed by the court as commissioners to examine the road and report whether aid was needed, and if so, how much. Last June the commissioners reported and upon their findings the court decided that when the town should raise the sum of \$2500 the State should give assistance to the amount of \$5000. Mr. Charles W. Rogers of New Haven received the appointment of commissioner to have charge of the repairs and expend the money. A part of the people of the town were not suited with Mr. Rogers' appointment, and though two or three town meetings for that object have been held, the town has not yet voted to raise the \$2500 that the court requires as a condition of State aid. Now the town by its attorney, Hon. F. E. Woodbridge of Vergennes, comes into court and asks that the commissioner be removed and another appointed. The court deny the request, saying that they do not think it wise to reconsider judgments except for stronger reasons than are made apparent in this instance. The town, then, can do one of two things—vote the \$2500 and let Mr. Rogers expend it, or lose the money which the State has offered to give to aid them.

It is not questioned but that the highway involved needs repairs; it always did and it always will require them. It is used more than any piece of road of similar length and on like soil in the State. It is a costly thing to maintain at best, and half the town scarcely ever use it. If State aid is deserved anywhere, it is here. The State has said what it will do. Granting for the sake of argument that the court was imposed upon, we cannot see how the town or the road is to be benefited by any further opposition to the commissioner. It is this commissioner or no State aid.

Though we have no doubt but that the good people of the town know their own business, it looks to us outside as if they would do well to accept the situation and make the best of it.

—A St. Louis syndicate has just acquired a 99 years' lease of a tract of land in Mexico, on the Rio Grande, 160 miles long and six miles wide. It will be used for a cattle pasture.

FOREFATHERS' DAY.

HOW IT WAS OBSERVED IN MIDDLEBURY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Middlebury Historical society celebrated, for the 14th consecutive year, the landing of the Pilgrims, at the Congregational church, Tuesday evening. The audience was larger than on any similar occasion of late. President Brainerd of the college presided. The exercises began with an organ voluntary by Mrs. Miner and the singing of the anthem, "Praise the Lord," by the choir, which was made up of Mrs. J. W. Pitts of Burlington, Miss Lizzie Cady, Miss Emma Dorsey, Mr. M. A. Munroe, Mr. Coolidge, Mr. Dana and Mr. Thomas.

The invocation was by Rev. S. L. B. Spear, pastor of the Congregational church, who also read the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy. The singing of Mrs. Hemans' ode, "The breaking waves dashed high," prayer by Prof. Granville Yager, and the singing of another anthem followed. Rev. Chandler N. Thomas of Port Henry, N. Y., was next introduced and spoke for about three-quarters of an hour. The address was able, clear and comprehensive and received the closest attention to the end. More than a score of years ago, said the speaker, Dr. J. G. Holland remarked, in a lecture in this church, that art is tested by its power; and the same law attaches to higher things, even to the creations of the Divine hand. So of striking historical events; their importance is measured by the outcome. This is true of that event which we celebrate to-night. It was the beginning of the Puritan influence on this continent. Plymouth Rock stands for Puritanism in America. Mr. Thomas then briefly sketched the progress of the Reformation from the time of Luther's excommunication up to the departure of Pastor Robinson and his flock from England. He showed that from the outbreak of the revolt in England against the authority of the Pope two parties had grown up—one composed of those who were for the establishment of a state religion, and the other of those who wished to worship God in accordance with the dictates of their consciences, and would worship in that way only.

That was not permitted them in England, and hence their departure for the New World. They were animated by a love of the largest liberty. Their coming led the way to larger emigrations of Puritans, who built upon the same foundation principles as their predecessors. Whatsoever be the estimate placed on the outcome of the settlement of America by the Puritans, it all resulted from the coming of the Pilgrims. The powerful influence upon this country which the Puritans exerted was due to two causes—first, the strength of their character, and, second, the fact that they aimed to build wholly upon God's eternal truth as revealed in the scriptures. It was an alliance of the human and divine that was bound to succeed. To obey God's word meant, with them, that they must have His word taught and that they must be able to read and study the word. And so they gave liberally for the support of churches and institutions of learning. Within 15 years after the landing of the Pilgrims there reached these shores more than 4000 families of Puritans. While the speaker disclaimed any intention of belittling the other elements which compose our nation, he thought it true, nevertheless, that to the Puritans we owe those characteristics which make the country what it is. In every part of this broad domain their power is still felt. We have an educational system such as can be found nowhere else, and our great systems of charity and social reform—how surely are they seen to be the fruits of the Fathers' teachings. The speaker went on to trace the principles of the Puritans as manifested during the struggle against slavery, which nearly rent the nation in twain, and in closing brought out forcibly the idea that the future prosperity and the highest welfare of this country in all its varied departments of activity will be found in following closely the paths marked out by the Puritans.

The exercises were brought to an end by the singing of the doxology, and the benediction, pronounced by Mr. Thomas.

THE LADIES' SOCIAL PARTY.

which was held, at the close of these services, in the lecture-room of the church, was, as it always is, a very pleasant affair. More than 150 persons sat down to the well-laden tables. Among those present were a number from out of town, among them Hon. Columbus Smith, wife and daughter of Salisbury, Hon. George W. Grandey of Vergennes, Mr. Henry R. Dorr of Rutland and others. Grace was said by Rev. M. C. Stebbins of Cornwall. After the good things which the ladies had so abundantly provided had been discussed to the general satisfaction, President Brainerd called the guests to order. A quartet composed of Dr. Sheldon and Messrs. Munroe, Coolidge and Thomas sang a song. President Brainerd spoke briefly, calling attention to the fact of the close relationship between the settlers of Middlebury and the Puritans. The

same principles animated both; for instance, a pastor was settled over this church within five years after the organization of the town and soon the college was founded.

Before sitting down Mr. Brainerd proposed the sentiment: "Forefather's day; a living memorial of a deathless past," and called upon Gen. Grandey to respond. The latter made one of those delightful speeches for which he is famous. No report can do it justice, or begin to. It was full of suggestive references to the past of Middlebury and to the distinguished men whom it then contained, such as Rev. Dr. Merrill, "the pope of Vermont"; Samuel Swift, Peter Starr, Horatio Seymour, Gov. Shade, Charles Lindsey, Julius A. Beckwith, Ira Stewart, Judge Phelps and Dr. Labaree. Mr. Grandey furnished the best of entertainment for half an hour and every one was sorry when he closed.

A duet by Mrs. Pitts and Mrs. Miner was next on the programme.

Mr. Henry R. Dorr of Rutland was called upon for a poem and gave one, entitled "Take Heed," which follows:

The great Creator wrote in books of stone
And taught his scrolls of pages manifold.
The records of the ages which were old
When the first light of history dimly shone.
Now, at long intervals, the years give birth
To men who turn and read on some new page
The story of a long forgotten age
When the primeval peoples walked the earth.
Great cities, builded on this continent
When the old years we know not of were young,
Flourished and fell; and over them was flung
The dust of time when their strong life was spent.
On distant western prairies, silent, wide
As the great deeps which stretch from land to land,
Strange monuments of elder nations stand,
Which the slow drift of centuries could not hide.

The hardy Vikings of the stormy north
Set sail and built their towers beside our shore
Long years before the sturdy Genoese
In his wind-beaten vessels ventured forth.
Still, this old land was new; and east and west
Broad miles of prairie and vast leagues of trees,
Patient, expectant, waited the favoring breeze
Which bore the Pilgrims in their dangerous quest.

For larger liberty and juster law
Than kingly counselors would grant, they came.
Brave men who thought, and thinking,
dared to claim
The rights which their prophetic eyes fore-saw.

Stern to a fault, for stern men must they be
Who sought to live, and at New England's birth
Wring from the rugged and reluctant earth
Rude nurture for the child of liberty.

Yet, stern men can be tender; and the brow
Which borrows sternness from the brows
And peaks
Softens and mellows when the warm heart speaks.
As mountains soften in the sunset glow.

Theirs was the principle which gave them strength
To dare the danger lurking in the word,
To lay the embers of war which stood
Beside each humble doorway, and at length
To triumph over all. Their wise men said
The broad and deep foundation stones
whereon
Was built the freedom that their children won
Beneath the flag whose bright stars shall not fade.

Shall never fade; but multiply and shine
With richer radiance while time shall last,
If later generations heed the past,
And cherish in their souls the spark divine.

Not all is wise that dries the heart of youth,
Not all is good that bears the stamp of age;
But men must seek upon the ancient page
The guides to glory and the soul of truth.

Safe in our freedom, shall we ask "what need?"
Lo, stealing in upon our long content,
A voice of prophecy and warning blent,
Cries from the silence of the past—"Take Heed!"

"Take heed!" for in the stronghold of the tree,
With torch and dagger clutched in his red hand,
The false apostle shrieks this wild demand
For license, in the name of liberty!

"Not only this. Remember, Rome was great,
Until the daily sons of stalwart sires,
The willing bondmen of their weak desires,
Brought woe and shame to a majestic state!"

A greater nation it is ours to keep;
And reading well the story of the years,
The stern and forgotten truth appears—"What'er the generations sow, they reap!"

The nation that the fathers' faith fore-saw—
That ancient faith, undimmed and sub-lime,
Shall last, God grant, until the end of time,
The child of liberty, truth and law!

Gen. Grandey wanted to hear Rev. Mr. Thomas sing "The Sword of Bunker Hill," and that gentleman complied with the request, much to the gratification of his auditors. It may be said in this connection that when Mr. Thomas was in college here he was a member of the college quartet, which is said to have equalled any of the fine ones that have since been so well known.

Prof. Wright was asked to respond to the sentiment: "Our country: its genesis came by the sea, for numbers crossed the mountains." He told of the New England characteristics of his native State (Ohio), and made a number of happy hits in the course of his remarks.

Mr. Judd of Port Henry, N. Y., was called up and commented on some of the lessons that were to be learned from the Pilgrims.

"The most Hellenic State of New England; which and why?" was the conundrum proposed to Prof. Eaton for solution, which gave him opportunity to draw interesting comparisons that bro't down the house.

The evening's entertainment concluded with the reading, by Miss Mary Spear, of the following poem, entitled "At Silver Lake," written for the occasion by Mrs. W. W. Thomas of Middlebury:

The misty clouds with haunting shadows fly
Athwart the hills that hold in strong embrace
Deep waters, mirrored in whose bosom lie
Rare pictures, clad in summer's living grace;

Of calm blue heavens, and dim, resounding shore;
Of grassy slopes, where brown-eyed cattle graze;
Of light-winged birds and softly-dipping oar,
And solemn pines that chant their endless lays.

Of flashing forms within the silver tide,
Where golden-footed morning loves to stray,
Where dancing breezes 'mid the sunbeams glide,
Till all the western hill fades out the day.

Of night's hushed hours when darkened spaces thrill,
The silent soul with yearnings unexpressed,
Till moonlight's rising glory crowns the hill,
As God's own tender love the human breast.

We stand, oh lake of charms! upon thy shore,
Whose rippling waves in music kiss our feet,
Or float in softest rest thy bosom o'er,
Whose charmed repose bids every care retreat.

Sportive again, with shells we fill our hands,
Or climb the hoary rock where mosses cling;
The pebbles gather from the shining sands,
And seek the caves where startled echoes ring.

Within the limpid flood our brows we bathe,
And bend to ask that human hearts may be
Made pure beneath an overflowing faith
In Him, who walked of old, on Galilee.

We watch against the sky the wavy line
Of mountain summits, that the Indian trod,
Whose footstep traced his untutored mind
To look from nature up to nature's God!

His cure amid the storm and echo to trace,
While o'er the lake he pushed his frail canoe.
As men in Eden, standing face to face,
The glorious presence of his Maker knew.

From lofty peaks our gaze delighted spans
The distant reach of shore, and wave and wood,
Lost in its grandeur, still we know His hand
Who made the picture, keeps the solitude.

Oh, when our footsteps leave this sylvan home,
A radiant dream of grace will memory bear,
Till oft we sigh its wildwood paths to roam
In peace, that lifts the burden of life's care.

We'll dream afar how morning's radiant palm
In benediction on the valley lies,
How sunset smagie hour repeats the charm
In mirrored splendor, of her countless dyes.

And gayer hearts may hush their songs to tears
The low response of leaf and murmuring wave,
But none in solemn joy shall shrink more dear
The tender lesson Nature's presence gave.

Keep then, oh mountain lake, thy dower of rest!
No line of beauty from thy shores be given!
For only rocked upon thy loving breast
The human soul may nearer lean to heaven!

Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening. It is needless to say that the music throughout was of a high character; and all the rest was of equal merit.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

At the Catholic church there will be midnight mass, beginning at 11:30 o'clock this evening. The church has been very elaborately decorated for the occasion.

The children of the Congregational Sunday-school were entertained at supper at the lecture-room on Wednesday afternoon, and of course they had a good time. There will be exercises appropriate to the Christmas season, by the school, Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

At the Methodist church, Sunday evening, there is to be a Christmas service, entitled "Our Guiding Star", consisting of singing, recitations and responsive readings. The exercises will commence at 7 o'clock.

At St. Stephen's a Christmas Eve service will be held at 7 o'clock this (Friday) evening in the church, and the Rev. W. B. Buckingham of Trinity church, Rutland, is expected to preach the sermon. The Christmas service proper will be held Christmas day at 10:45 a. m., and will consist of morning prayer, sermon and Holy communion. Special music has been prepared for this service. On Sunday, St. Stephen's day, services as follows: Holy communion, 9 a. m.; Morning prayer, 10:45 a. m.; Sunday school, 12:15 p. m.; Evening prayer 7 p. m. On Monday, St. John the Evangelist's day, there will be Holy communion at 9 a. m. On Tuesday, Holy Innocents' day, Holy communion, 9 a. m.; Children's festival, 6 p. m.

THE ADDISON COUNTY VETERANS.

The reunion society of the veterans of Addison county held a business meeting on Wednesday afternoon at the rooms of Russell post in this village. Commander T. C. Middlebrook presided. Adjutant Jackman reported informally and Quartermaster Scott gave a verbal report and also a written one, the latter showing that \$10.00 was needed to defray the expenses of the last reunion.

It was decided to hold the next reunion at Vergennes, on the fair grounds, on or about June 20, 1887, the exact date to be fixed by the commander, and that no admission fees would be charged. The commander was instructed to invite Camp A. S. Tracy, Sons of Veterans, to meet with the reunion. The officers of the society were made a committee of arrangements for the reunion.

STATE OF VERMONT—District of Addison.

Be it remembered, that at a session of the Probate Court, holden at Middlebury, within and for said district on the 21st day of December, A. D. 1886.

Present: Hon. Lyman E. Knapp, Judge. Whereas, James W. Thomas, administrator of the estate of Willard Whitney, late of Salisbury, in said district deceased, has this day presented to said court his petition in writing, setting forth that it will be necessary to sell a part of the real estate of said deceased, for the payment of the debts and charges of administration; and also that it will be beneficial for all parties interested therein to sell the whole of the real estate of said deceased, and therein making application to said court for license to make such sale. And said administrator having produced to said court the assent in writing of all the heirs residing in this state, interested in said real estate. It is ordered, that all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, be notified to appear before said court, at the probate office in Middlebury, in said district, on the 10th day of January, A. D. 1887, by publication of this order, three weeks successively previous thereto, in the Middlebury Register a newspaper printed at Middlebury aforesaid, to show cause, if any they may have, why said license should not be granted.

LYMAN E. KNAPP, Judge.

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